

## **NARRATIVE REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "EMPOWERING YOUTH CITIZENSHIP FOR EU FUTURE" PROJECT**

### **THIRD CROSS MEETING – ALZIRA (SPAIN)**

The Italian delegation joined the third cross meeting in Alzira (Spain) from June the 11th up to the 14th. The delegation was composed by 5 people: 1 delegate of the public institution Unione della Romagna Faentina, 2 girls (age 20 and 24) and 2 boys (age 23 and 24).

The experience in Spain has been very different from the previous meetings we had in Salamina (Greece) and Starachowize (Poland), mainly due to the way the local institution of Alzira and its delegates planned the activities.

They allowed us to know their territory and the youth policies going deep into it through experiences done into the nature, mountains and marine landscape, Valencia and its building as well.

The first day we were welcomed by the Mayor of Alzira inside the municipal building, and he told us about the story of their town. Afterwards we went to the high school of Alzira and we were welcomed by the worker trained at Idea (municipal department which work on European policies, youth policies, employment and training): they prepared an international buffet and we had the chance to taste dishes prepared by them thanks to the trainings financed through regional and European funds. During the same morning an Oxford debate took place and many young participants, from Alzira and from the different foreign delegations, took part at it. It was a very interesting debate about the EU Green Deal. In the afternoon our host-partners took us to visit the center of the beautiful Valencia: we had the chance to see the historical downtown.

During the second day we made a hiking experience going to the mountain La Murta. Two guides took us through the forest and invited us to make a workshop aimed at observing and recognizing local Mediterranean plants. We walked through the mountain, and we visited an ancient monastery and its hydrogeological system. We had the chance to meet some workers who are taking part at the trainings made by Idea.

In the afternoon we went to a meeting room at Idea and the young participants made a workshop lead by the 2 local guides. They wanted the youngsters to reflect about problems such as pollution, agriculture, ... and to think about solutions. They made an interesting game using a row-ball which was used to create connections between words focused on nature, environment, and animals. Afterwards we had free time.

During the last day, we went to Alzira and had a study day visit about youth policies in municipalities. We met different local representatives and could list to good practices regarding youth policies at local and regional level, meeting with local government officials and experts. We met the deputy Director of the Valencian Youth Institute; a representative of the Valencian Youth Council, a Youth officer (MANRA) who presented the initiatives carried out at sub-regional level and finally we met a youth officer of the City Council of Alzira.

Workshop at Idea - host-partner in Alzira municipality

